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Letter dated 23 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to the latest incidents in the Palestinian terrorist campaign against Israel.

Shortly after 9 a.m. on 22 April 2001, during the height of the morning rush hour, a suicide bomber detonated a high-explosive bomb, packed with nails, in the middle of a bus stop crowded with people in the city of Kfar Saba. Dr. Mario Goldin, a 52-year-old father of three, was killed in the blast, which injured more than 50 others. The terrorist organization Hamas has taken responsibility for the bombing.

Another attack occurred today, in the early afternoon hours, when a car bomb was detonated near the Abu Laben market in the town of Or Yehuda. A number of civilian passers-by were wounded, including a brother and sister, ages 12 and 8 respectively, and damage was caused to stores and cars parked in the area.

These bombings are merely the latest incidents in a terrorist campaign which is being waged with alarming frequency and which incorporates a range of tactics, including suicide bombings, car bombings, sniper fire, murder and mortar attacks. All of these attacks have been detailed in a series of letters dated 16 April 2001 (A/55/901-S/2001/364), 28 March 2001 (A/55/863-S/2001/291), 27 March 2001 (A/55/860-S/2001/280), 26 March 2001 (A/55/858-S/2001/278), 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), 5 March 2001 (A/55/821-S/2001/193), 2 March 2001 (A/55/819-S/2001/187), 14 February 2001 (A/55/787-S/2001/137), 13 February 2001 (A/55/781-S/2001/132), 2 February 2001 (A/55/762-S/2001/103), 25 January 2001 (A/55/748-S/2001/81), 23 January 2001 (A/55/742-S/2001/71), 28 December 2000 (A/55/719-S/2000/1252), 22 November 2000 (A/55/641-S/2000/1114), 20 November 2000 (A/55/634-S/2000/1108) and 2 November 2000 (A/55/540-S/2000/1065). Seventy-four Israelis have been killed in terrorist attacks since the outbreak of hostilities in late September 2000.

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These attacks also come less than 48 hours after a security coordination meeting between Israeli and Palestinian officials, in which the Palestinian Authority pledged to take action against terrorism emanating from the areas under its jurisdiction. The Palestinian Authority remains unwilling, however, to take the concrete actions necessary to halt the wave of terror. On the contrary, the Palestinian leadership is acting to facilitate terrorist activity. Last week, the Palestinian Authority released dozens of known prisoners, among them Muhammed Deif, a Hamas terrorist mastermind who is responsible for dozens of deadly attacks against Israel.

In the light of the above, Israel holds the Palestinian Authority responsible for these latest attacks, and again calls upon the Palestinian leadership to undertake concerted actions aimed at preventing terrorist attacks, to rearrest those terrorists who have been released from custody and to call unequivocally for an end to the violence.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as an official document of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 164, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative